



PLACER COUNTY SHERIFF CORONER-MARSHAL



MAIN OFFICE
P.O. BOX 6990
AUBURN, CA 95604
PH: (530)889-7800 FAX: (530)889-7899

TAHOE SUBSTATION
DRAWER 1710
TAHOE CITY, CA 96145
PH: (530)581-6300 FAX: (530)581-6377

EDWARD N. BONNER
SHERIFF-CORONER-MARSHAL

STEPHEN L. D'ARCY
UNDERSHERIFF

PRESS RELEASE

Date/Time of Release:	Monday, May 07, 2001
Date/Time of Occurrence	Sunday, May 6, 2001
Nature of Call	Latest non-lethal tool used to subdue subject
Location of Call	Sheridan, Placer County
Suspect	Christopher R. Younce, age 23, Sacramento resident
Released by	Lt. Rick Armstrong, (530) 889-7816

SHERIFF EDWARD N. BONNER RELEASES THE FOLLOWING:

Placer County sheriff's deputies were able to end a potentially deadly situation early Sunday morning utilizing the departments latest non-lethal PepperBall system.

According to Sgt. Mike Harris, deputies were able to temporarily disable and arrest an armed Sacramento man who had refused to exit his vehicle. Deputies initially found Christopher R. Younce, 23, slumped in the driver's seat with a loaded revolver in his hand while his car was parked in the roadway near Highway 65.



The Sheriff's Department began using the PepperBall system in February to prevent dangerous situations from escalating into deadly confrontations. In this case, the known parolee was awakened when officers fired less-lethal projectiles at his rear window. When Younce refused to exit the car, Sgt. Harris was able to fire PepperBalls, which are filled with a powdered form of pepper spray, through the windows. The half-naked man quickly exited without the gun.

Younce attempted to flee but was confronted by deputies. As he resisted arrest, he kicked and swung at arresting deputies. It took several deputies to place him in custody. He was booked at the Placer County Jail on charges of resisting arrest, felon in possession of a firearm and carrying a loaded firearm in public. He remains in custody on a no-bail parole hold.

Harris reported that the new system worked successfully, with no one injured in the incident. The PepperBalls, fired from a safe distance, encouraged Younce's rapid compliance with the deputies' orders to step out of the vehicle.

All sheriffs' supervisors' vehicles are equipped with PepperBall systems for field use.

"This successful first use of the less-lethal PepperBall system - combined with the quick-thinking of the involved deputies - shows that there are situations where less-lethal devices do work," said Sheriff Ed Bonner.

This and other press releases may be found at www.placer.ca.gov/sheriff.